

NOTES ON CONIOPTERYGIDAE (NEUROPTERA) FROM THE ETHIOPIAN REGION^{1,2}

Victor Johnson³

ABSTRACT: *Coniopteryx borealis* Tjeder is recorded for the first time from the African continent. A neotype is designated for *Semidalis nigrivena* Fraser, and its synonymy with *Semidalis mascarenica* is confirmed.

Upon examining specimens of Coniopterygidae in the Illinois Natural History Museum collection, two interesting specimens were found. These were one male each of *Coniopteryx borealis* Tjeder and *Semidalis mascarenica* Fraser.

The specimen of *C. borealis* was labelled "12 mi. sw. of Mateur, Tunisia, Aug. 31, 1943, G.T. Riegel and J.H. Materne" and represents a new country and continent record. This species was previously known from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Scotland, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Romania and USSR (Meinander, 1972).

The second specimen is of interest because it confirms the synonymy of *Semidalis nigrivena* with *S. mascarenica*. Fraser described *S. mascarenica* from Madagascar (1952) and *S. nigrivena* from Reunion Island (1957). The description of *S. nigrivena* was based on "a number of both sexes but mostly males from the Rempart de Belouve, Reunion, I-55, collected by Dr. R. Paulian." He indicated that the type was deposited in the Institut de Recherche Scientifique, Madagascar. Fraser gave an inadequate description of both *S. mascarenica* and *S. nigrivena* and indicated that the 2 species were very similar. He apparently considered *S. nigrivena* to be a valid species based on its new insular distribution.

Meinander (1972) considered *S. nigrivena* a synonym of *S. mascarenica* from Madagascar. He concluded that the types of both species were lost as they were not in the Institut de Recherche Scientifique, Madagascar, British Museum (Natural History) or Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle. The present specimen is genitically identical to Meinander's illustration of *S. mascarenica*; the collection data is identical to that of *S. nigrivena* given by Fraser.

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³Formerly Research Assistant in the Department of Entomology, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky 40546. Current Address: USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Box 22277, Lexington, Kentucky 40522.

Since the holotype of *S. nigrivena* is apparently lost and there is a specimen with identical collection data as the original type series, I hereby designate the Illinois History Natural Survey specimen as a neotype of *S. nigrivena*. Additionally, as the specimen is genetically identical to *S. mascarenica*, I concur with Meinander that until demonstrated otherwise, *S. nigrivena* should be considered a synonym on *S. mascarenica*.

REFERENCES CITED

- Fraser, F.E. 1952. New additions to the fauna of Madagascar, Odonata and Neuroptera. Mem. Inst. Scient. Madagascar (E)1: 135-43.
Fraser, F.E. 1957. Odonata and Neuroptera of Reunion. Mem. Inst. Scient. Madagascar (E)8: pp. 21-22.
Meinander, M. 1972. A revision of the family Conioptergidae. Acta Zool. Fennica. 136: 1-357.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

(Continued from page 158)

- 2160 *Lamprocabera* Inoue, 1958 (Insecta, Lepidoptera), proposed designation of type species.
2258 *Ptinella* Motschulsky, 1844, and *Nephanes* Thomson, 1859 (Insecta, Coleoptera), proposed conservation.
2283 *Aphis callunae* Theobald, 1915 (Insecta, Aphidoidea), proposed conservation.
1583 *Athyreus* Macleay, 1819 and *Glyptus* Brulle, 1835 (Insecta, Coleoptera), proposed conservation.

The following Opinions and Direction No. 108 have been published recently by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, Volume 37, part 2, 19th June 1980.

Opinion No.

- 1155 (p. 89) *Saperda inornata* Say, 1824 (Insecta Coleoptera): designation of a neotype by the use of the plenary powers.
1157 (p. 96) *Sphex viatica* [sic] Linnaeus, 1758 (Insecta Hymenoptera): designation of lectotype.

The Commission regrets that it cannot supply separates of Opinions or Directions.

R.V. Melville
Secretary